



# EXPLORE BOWHUNTING

## What is Explore Bowhunting?

- Explore Bowhunting (EB) is an exciting new program that will take archery for students to a new level. Its curriculum exposes students to a wide range of basic outdoor and archery skills. The curriculum also addresses national education standards. Although EB does not involve an actual hunt, it takes kids afield to foster a deeper appreciation of nature, while beginning to instill the knowledge they need to be successful hunters.
- See Video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BAO8Q4Y3JkU> or Google: Youtube Explore Bowhunting

## Who is Explore Bowhunting designed for?

- EB is targeted to reach students 11-17 years of age, but can be adapted to virtually any age group—from elementary students to senior adults.

## Why was Explore Bowhunting Created?

- EB was created by the Archery Trade Association (ATA) in partnership with state and federal wildlife agencies, conservation groups, and other experts in outdoor recreation and hunting. EB was conceived in response to the nationwide decline in hunting participation, and the need to keep youth connected to the outdoors.
- This program will provide a “first step” for many youths to engage the outdoors, and encourage participation in hunter education, bowhunter education, and mentored hunts.
- Ultimately, EB will inspire participation in many outdoor activities including shooting sports, hunting, fishing, bird watching, photography and hiking by creating positive outdoor experiences for participants and enhancing their outdoor knowledge.

## When will Explore Bowhunting start in Kentucky?

- Kentucky’s first pilot programs will “kick-off” in June 2011.
- EB will launch in after-school settings and additional programs in August 2011.

## Where will Explore Bowhunting be offered?

- EB is a very flexible program that can be tailored to fit a variety of settings; it can be conformed to instructors’ and students’ time constraints and needs.
- EB can be offered as an after-school activity or club, during a summer camp or school break program, as part of a weekly youth program, or during special events.
- EB will be available through schools, parks and recreation programs, civic and youth organizations, churches, conservation organizations, sportsmen’s clubs, local outdoor shops, and possibly other venues as well.

## How do I get involved?

We need host organizations, instructors, and sponsors for Explore Bowhunting in Kentucky.

- Host organizations will provide space and support for kids to experience EB. A location that affords a combination of indoor and outdoor space is ideal.
- Instructors will first attend a training course hosted by Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife. We will work with certified instructors to establish EB programs, and help influencers to plant EB into new locations.
- Sponsors will help promote EB and help fund its implementation at a local or statewide level.
- Contact Katie Koontz, Kentucky’s Explore Bowhunting coordinator, at 502-564-7109 x4587 or via [Katie.Koontz@ky.gov](mailto:Katie.Koontz@ky.gov)

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